

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: WU, Dong-Her; TANG, Lai-Fu

SERIAL NO.:

FILED: Herewith

TITLE: STEERING MECHANISM OF A MASSAGE MACHINE

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A steering mechanism of a massaging machine, said steering mechanism serving to actuate a massaging device of the massaging machine to operate and to move in a reciprocating manner, said steering mechanism comprising:

a shaft;

a drive gear ~~provided with~~ comprised of a master gear and mounted on said shaft such that said drive gear is engaged with a worm of a motor, and such that said master gear is linked with a slave gear of the massaging machine by a chain which is used to actuate the massaging device to operate; and

a driven seat ~~provided with~~ comprised of an auxiliary gear and mounted on said shaft such that said auxiliary gear is engaged with a transmission gear serving to actuate a bidirectional threaded rod via two sector gears, thereby resulting in a reciprocating motion of the massaging device;

wherein said driven seat is ~~provided with~~ comprised of a unidirectional bearing and is mounted on said shaft by said unidirectional bearing whereby said unidirectional bearing serves to disable the massaging device to engage in the reciprocating motion at the time when said drive gear is driven to turn in a reverse direction.

2. (Currently amended) The steering mechanism as defined in claim 1, wherein said shaft is ~~formed~~ comprised of a core and a wear-resistant sleeve fitted over said core.

3. (Original) The steering mechanism as defined in claim 2, wherein said drive gear is mounted on said wear-resistant sleeve of said shaft; wherein said unidirectional bearing of said driven seat is mounted on said wear-resistant sleeve of said shaft.